WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A document management/EDI system linkage unit, comprising:

a document management means having an accumulation means that assigns a version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control means that manages version control information for the accumulation;

an EDI means that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

a linkage means that links the document management means and the EDI means and registers sending information of the EDI data in the version control information of the relevant transaction document when the accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the EDI data, then the EDI data is sent.

2. The document management/EDI system linkage unit according to claim 1, wherein

the EDI means comprises a means for receiving EDI data, and

the linkage means, when a transaction document is attached to the received EDI data and the transaction document that corresponds to the attached document is already managed by the document management means, accumulates the attached document as the latest version of the relevant transaction document, and, when the relevant transaction document is not managed,

accumulates the attached document as the first version of a new document and registers receiving information of the EDI data in the version control information.

3. The document management/EDI system linkage unit according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the linkage means deletes the sending information of the EDI data from the version control information when a sending error occurs or sending is disabled in the EDI data sent by the EDI means.

4. The document management/EDI system linkage unit according to claim 1, 2, or 3, wherein the document management means comprises a lock means for temporarily inhibiting the update of a document, and

the linkage means temporarily inhibits the update of the relevant transaction document using the lock means when the transaction document is sent by the EDI means, and cancels update inhibition at least when the transaction document is received, a transaction is terminated and sending is disabled.

5. A document management/EDI system linkage method, comprising:

a document management step having an accumulation step that assigns a version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control step that manages version control information for the accumulation;

an EDI step that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

a linkage step that links the document management step
and the EDI step and registers the sending information of the
EDI data in the version control information of the relevant
transaction document when the accumulated transaction document
and the version are selected and attached to the created EDI
data, then the EDI data is sent.

6. The document management/EDI system linkage method
according to claim 5, wherein

the EDI step comprises a step that receives EDI data, and
when a transaction document is attached to the received
EDI data and the transaction document that corresponds to the
attached document is already managed by the document management
means, the linkage step accumulates the attached document as
the latest version of the relevant transaction document, and,
when the transaction document is not managed, it stores the
attached document as the first version of a new document and
registers the receiving information of the EDI data in the version
control information.

7. The document management/EDI system linkage method
according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the linkage step deletes the
sending information of the EDI data from the version control
information when a sending error occurred or sending was disabled
in the EDI data sent in the EDI step.

8. The document management/EDI system linkage method
according to claim 5, 6, or 7, wherein the document management

step includes a step of temporarily inhibiting the update of a document, and

the linkage step temporarily inhibits the update of the relevant transaction document by executing the lock control step when the transaction document was sent through the EDI step, and, cancels update inhibition at least when the transaction document is received, a transaction is terminated, and sending is disabled.

9. An information recording medium of which the contents can be read on a computer, and that records a program for executing:

a document management procedure including a procedure that assigns a version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a procedure that manages version control information for the accumulation;

an EDI procedure that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

a linkage procedure that links the document management procedure and the EDI procedure and registers sending information of the EDI data in the version control information of the relevant transaction document when the accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the EDI data, then the EDI data is sent.

10. The information recording medium according to claim 9, wherein

the EDI step comprises a step that receives EDI data, and

the linkage step, when a transaction document is attached to the EDI data received in the EDI step and the transaction document that corresponds to the attached document is already managed by the document management means, accumulates the

5   attached document as the latest version of the transaction document, and, when the relevant transaction document is not managed, accumulates the attached document as the first version of a new document and registers receiving information of the EDI data in the version control information.

10   11. A document processing program, executing:

a document management procedure including a procedure that assigns a version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a procedure that manages version control information for the accumulation;

15   an EDI procedure that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

a linkage procedure that links the document management means and the EDI procedure and registers sending information of the EDI data in version control information of the relevant

20   transaction document when the accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the EDI data, then the EDI data is sent.